St. Clair Family

Special Collections

Will of Thomas Simpler (1742-1826) of Sussex County, Delaware

Source: The original from which this transcription was made is in the custody of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware. Probate Records of Sussex County, vol. A99, p. 161.

Punctuation is virtually absent in the original, thus for clarity, punctuation was added. Explanations and interpretations are enclosed in brackets. Except for the last sentence of Page 2, words inserted after the main text was written are shown in their correct position without indicating that they were added later. In other respects the transcription is faithful to the original.

Page 1

March 16th 1812, I do hereby Certyfy that I Do give and Depose [that is, dispose] of my Land, money, house hold goods and moveables in the [letters "fow" crossed out] following mannor and form: First, I give and Bequeth to my well Beloved wife Leah Simpler, whome I Constituete make and [the word "appoint" omitted] my only and Sole Executrise of this my Last will and Testament, the full Third part of all my Land and plantation During her naturel Life, together with a third part of all my money, houshold goods and movables, there with freely to Be possed [that is, possessed] for ever. Likewis I give to my well Beloved Son John [in the manuscript it appears this way: Joh with n above] Simpler the Sum of one Shilling, there with freely to Be possessed and Enjoyed for ever. Likewise I give to the heirs of my Beloved daughter Sarah Simpler the full Sum of one Shilling, there with freely to Be possed and injoyed for ever. Likewise I give to my weel [that is, well] beloved Daughter Mary Rust the full Sum of one Shilling, there with freely to be possessed and injoyed for ever. Likewis I give to my weel beloved Daugher Unicy Blizzard the full Sum of one Shilling, there with freely to be possessed and injoyd for ever. Likewis I give to my well Beloved Daughter Lyda walls the full Sum of one Shiling, there with freely to Be possessed and injoyed for Ever.

Page 2

Likewise I give to my weell Beloved Son Thomas Simpler all and Singler the Land I ounce Laid of [off] for my Son John, there with freely to Be possessed and injoyed for ever; and if the Said Thos Simpler Dies with out lawful issue, his Land Shall go to his Brothers James Simpler and Peter Simpler and to their heirs for Ever. Likewise I give to my weell Beloved Son James Simpler all and Singlar the Land [letters "La" crossed out] Lieing on the East Side of an old Line Begining at the Corner of my field and white oak Corner near the Edge of woodstocks Branch, thence Running near with and [an] old Road tell Entersecting Robert Worrington[s] Line, there with freely to Be possessed and injoyed for ever;

and if the Said James Simpler Dies with out issue, his Land goes to his other Brothers Thomas Simpler and Peter Simpler and to their heirs for ever. Likewise I give to my weell Beloved Son peter Simpler all and Singlar the Land lying Betwen the afore Said tracts Belonging to my two Sons Thomas and James, and to his heirs for ever, to gather with one feather Beed and furniture, and one mair, and three yearlings, and one gun, there with to Be possessed and Enjoyed for Ever; and if the Said peter Simpler Dies with out issue, his Land goes to his other Brothers, Namely Thomas and James. Likewise I give to my weel Beloved Daughter Arcada [the letter "S" crossed out] Atkins the full Sum of one Shilling, there with possessed and injoyed for ever. Also I Give and Bequeath to my Grand Son John Salmons, one Feather Bed and furniture, thre with to Be Possed and Enjoyed for Ever. [The next sentence was added later, at the bottom of the page, in a different hand.] And John Salmons has Receiv^{d} his Share of my Estate.

Page 3

And I do hearby utterly Disallow, Revook and Disannul all and Every other testament, wills, Legaces, Bequests and Executors By me [the word "any" crossed out] in any ways be fore named, willed and be queathed, Ratifying and Confiriming this and no other to be my Last will and testament. In witness wheof [whereof] I have hear unto Set my hand and Seal the Day and year above Writen.
Sined, Sealed, Published, Pronounced and Declared By The Said

Thomas Simpler
his Last will and
Testament in the
Presents of us

Thomas his X mark Simpler

Thomas Rust
John Green

NB: To Nauma Simpler I Leave one bed and Furniture, by her freely to be Enjoyed and possessd, and no more.
Likewise I Leave Jane Simpler one bed and furniture, and no more.
Likewise I Give to Rhoda Simpler One Dutch Oven, and no more.

[The last three bequests are written in a different hand and ink from the main text.]

Transcription prepared by Charles St. Clair, 3803 Vanneter, Williamston, MI 48895
August 1986

Likewise I give to my well Beloved Son
Thomas Simpler all and Singler the Land & ounce
Said of for my Son John there with freely to Be
possessed and injoyed for ever and if the Said
Thos Simpler Dies without lawful issue his Land Shall
go to his Brothers James Simpler and Peter Simpler
Likewise I give to my well Beloved Son James and to their heirs for Ever
Simpler all and Singlar the Land Ea Lieing on the
East Side of an old Line Beginning at the Corner
of my pied and white oak Corner near the Edge
of woodstocks Brandh thence Running near with
and old Road tell Intersecting Robert worrington
Line there with freely to Be possessed and injoyed
for ever and if the Said James Simpler Dies with
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my well Beloved Son peter Simpler all and Singlar
the Land Lying Between the afore Said tracts
Belonging to my two Sons thomas and James to and
Father with one feather Bed and furniture and
one mair and three Gearings and one gun
possessed and Enjoyed for Even and if the Said
peter Simpler Dies without issue his Land goes
to his others Brothers Namely Thomas and James
Likewise I give to my well Beloved Daughter
arcada Simkins the full Sum of one Shilling
there with possessed and injoyed for ever
Also I give and Bequeath to my Grand Son
John Salmons one feather Bed and furniture
there with to Be possessed and Enjoyed for Ever
and John Salmons has Receive his Share of my Estate

March the 16 1812 I do hearby Certyfy that I Do give and Depose of my Land money house hold goods and moveables in the four following Manner and form. First I give and Bequeath to my well Beloved wife Leah Simpfler whome I Constitute make and my only and Sole Executrise of this my Last will and Testament the full Third part of all my Land and plantation During her natured Life together with a third part of all my money household goods and moveables There with freely to Be possed for ever Likewis I give to my well Beloved Son Jok Simpfler the Sum of one Shilling there with freely to Be possessed and Enjoyed for ever Likewise I give to the heirs of my Beloved Daughter Sarah Simpfler the full Sum of one Shilling there with freely to Be possed and injoyed for ever Likewise I give to my well beloved Daughter Mary Rust the full Sum of one Shilling there with freely to be possessed and injoyed for ever Likewis I give to my well beloved Daughter Nancy Blizzard the full Sum of one Shilling there with freely to be possessed and injoyd for ever Likewis I give to my well Beloved Daughter Lyda walls the full Sum of one Shilling there with freely to Be possessed and injoyd for Ever

And I Do Learby utterly Disallow Revoak
and Disannul all and Every other testament
wills Legacies Bequests and Executors By me
any in anyways be fore named willed and be
queathed Ratifying and Confirming this and no
other to be my Last will and Testament In
witness whereof I have Learunto Set my Land
and Seal the Day and year above Written

Signed Sealed Published Pronounced
And Declared By The Said
Thomas Simpler
his Last will and
Testament in the
Presents of us

his
Thomas Simpler Seal
mark

Thomas Rust
John Green

NB To Nauma Simpler I Leave one bed and
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Likewis I Leive Jane Simpler one bed and furniture
and No more
Likewise I Give to Rhoda Simpler the Dutch Oven
and no more

A99 page 61